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BLYTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1966

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BLYTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, My Ladies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population showed a decrease of 80 persons on the previous year's figures.

Estimated mid-year population: 1965 - 19,250
1966 - 19,170

During 1966 there was a total of 271 live births and 261 deaths, a natural increase of population of 10 persons, compared with 278 live births and 240 deaths in 1965. The adjusted birth rate was 16.25 per 1,000 and the adjusted death rate 9.8 per 1,000. (The figure for England and Wales was 17.7 and 11.7 respectively). There were 6 infant deaths, 4 of these occurring within the first week of life.

71% of all deaths were due to causes associated with ageing. The percentage due to malignant diseases rose from 17.5 in 1965 to 21.07 in 1966.

The total number of cases of cancer of the lung and bronchus was the highest so far recorded (12 males and 2 females).

71 cases of infectious disease were notified; 31 being due to measles and 27 to sonne dysentery. Cases on the Tuberculosis register further declined to a total of 41. Now that an effective live vaccine against measles is available, it is to be hoped that this disease with its occasional tragic complication in the form of permanent brain damage will be reduced in the same way as diphtheria and poliomyelitis following adequate immunisation.

Children notified as receiving primary courses of oral anti-poliomyelitis vaccine totalled 198, while 11 received salk vaccine. 144 children were vaccinated against smallpox and 167 against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough.

During the year there was one confirmed outbreak of brucellosis on a farm in the district. The milk from this farm had been bulk sterilised but fresh cream had been on sale to the public.

It is a matter of some concern that fresh unpasteurised milk and cream is still sold and consumed raw in this area. It may not always be realised that pasteurisation renders milk safe. Milk in its raw state can readily transmit disease such as tuberculosis, undulant fever, typhoid and septic sore throat amongst other illnesses.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient Servant,

G. C. M. FRANKLIN

M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Council Offices,
Rendham Road,
Saxmundham.

Tel. No: SAXMUNDHAM 2281/2

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	98,184
Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid-1966)	19,170
Number of inhabited houses (estimated)	6,694
Rateable Value	£373,279
Product of Penny Rate (estimated)	£1,440

	Blyth R.D.	England & Wales	
LIVE BIRTHS			
Number	271	-	
Rate per 1,000 population	14.13	17.7	c
STILLBIRTHS			
Number	3	-	
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	10.9	15.4	c
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	274	-	
INFANT DEATHS (deaths under 1 year)	6	-	
INFANT MORTALITY RATES			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	22.1	19.0	
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	15.8	+	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	[redacted]	+	
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	14.7	12.9	
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births	11.07	11.1	
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	21.8	26.3	
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)			
Number of deaths	NIL	-	
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	NIL	+	

- Not applicable
+ Not yet available
c Based on estimated births

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL	121	150	271
Legitimate	115	138	253
Illegitimate	6	12	18

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL	3	-	3
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL	3	3	6
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitmate	2	-	2

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL	1	3	4
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL	1	2	3
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

	Male	Female	TOTAL
DEATHS - ALL AGES	124	137	261

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RATES

	Blyth R.D.	England & Wales
Adjusted Birth Rate	16.25	-
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	13.61	11.7
Adjusted Death Rate	9.8	-

Comparability Factor (Births)	1.15
" " (Deaths)	0.68

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

SEX	AGE	CAUSE OF DEATHS
F	1 - 7 hours	Prematurity
F	11 hours	Asphyxia Livida
F	1 week	Heart failure
M	1 day	Hyaline Membrane Disease
M	2 months	Meningococcal septicaemia
M	9 months	Acute staphylococcal pneumonia

CAUSES OF DEATH

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	1	-	1
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	12	2	14
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	8	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	4	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	12	11	23
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
Carried forward	30	27	57

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Brought forward	30	27	57
16. Diabetes	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	26	40
18. Coronary disease, angina	25	14	39
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	2	2
20. Other heart disease	15	17	32
21. Other circulatory diseases	7	11	18
22. Influenza	1	2	3
23. Pneumonia	8	8	16
24. Bronchitis	4	5	9
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	3	5
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-	4
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	12	19
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34. All other accidents	1	4	5
35. Suicide	4	2	6
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	124	137	261

DEATHS FROM CANCER OF THE LUNG AND BRONCHUS DURING THE YEARS 1956 - 1966

YEAR	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION
1956	6	1	7	0.36
1957	4	-	4	0.20
1958	4	-	4	0.20
1959	8	1	9	0.41
1960	4	1	5	0.26
1961	6	3	9	0.47
1962	6	2	8	0.42
1963	4	2	6	0.32
1964	2	3	5	0.26
1965	6	2	8	0.37
1966	12	2	14	0.72

ADJUSTED BIRTH AND DEATH RATE : COMPARABILITY FACTOR

Local birth rates are expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar General and comprise persons of all ages, including those who have no influence on the birth rate. These latter do, however, affect the birth rate in that a high proportion of them in a population tends to lower, and a small proportion tends to raise the true rate. The size of this proportion will vary in different areas and, therefore, the elimination or standardization of such a factor will give a truer comparison between areas.

The Registrar General issues a comparability factor on these lines. Multiplication of the crude birth rate of an area by the comparability factor gives the adjusted birth rate and can be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales.

The comparability factor for deaths is obtained in a similar way to the above. The factors for certain areas, where rapid increase or reduction in the population materially affects its comparison by sex and age groups, are also adjusted on that account. Death rate area comparability factors are adjusted to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area. Birth rate area comparability factors are also adjusted to take account of the presence of sterile populations in institutions for the mentally ill or mentally deficient.

TABLE SHOWING THE MORE IMPORTANT CAUSES OF DEATH, NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES

CAUSE OF DEATH	NO. OF DEATHS		PERCENTAGE	
	1965	1966	1965	1966
Diseases of circulatory system	93	91	38.75	34.86
Vascular lesions of nervous system	33	40	13.75	15.32
Malignant diseases	42	56	17.50	21.07
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	25	25	10.41	9.57
Influenza	1	3	.42	1.14
All other causes	46	46	19.17	17.62
TOTAL	240	261	100.00	99.59

In 1966, 71.2% of all deaths fell under the first three headings. The comparable figure for 1965 was 70% and for 1964 was 73%.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	YEAR										
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Population	19,210	19,100	19,100	19,100	19,110	18,760	18,920	19,000	19,230	19.250	19,170
No. of inhabited houses	6,868	6,635	6,661	6,698	6,730	6,737	6,684	6,500	6,512	6,638	6,694
No. of Live Births	264	299	324	297	292	270	302	315	301	278	271
Birth Rate (crude)	13.2	15.7	16.9	15.5	15.28	14.4	15.9	16.6	15.6	14.4	14.1
No. of Still Births	8	7	9	5	5	6	6	0	4	0	3
Maternal Mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infant Mortality Rate	34.0	6.7	12.3	10.1	34.24	14.8	16.2	15.9	23.2	14.4	22.1
(No. of Deaths)	(9)	(2)	(4)	(3)	(10)	(4)	(5)	(5)	(7)	(4)	(6)
No. of Deaths (all ages)	254	251	283	262	272	293	276	277	234	240	261
Death Rate (crude)	13.2	13.1	14.8	13.8	14.23	15.6	14.5	14.6	12.1	12.5	13.61

NUMBER OF ALL CONFIRMED CASES OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1966 ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX

A G E	Scarlet Fever			Measles			Dysentery			Pneumonia			Erysipelas			Whooping Cough			Peurperal Pyrexia	
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	F	T
Under 1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 -	-	-	-	3	2	5	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 -	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 -	-	-	-	4	2	6	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	2	-	2	5	5	10	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
10 - 14	-	1	1	2	1	3	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	1	1	-	2	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
45 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 or over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Not known	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	4	17	14	31	14	13	27	2	1	3	3	1	4	-	1	1	1	1

38 Males plus 33 Females = 71

DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Dysentery	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Whooping Cough	Peurperal Pyrexia
January	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
February	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
March	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
April	-	2	14	1	-	-	-
May	-	2	4	-	1	1	-
June	1	7	-	-	-	-	-
July	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
August	1	5	-	-	-	-	-
September	-	3	5	1	-	-	-
October	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
November	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
December	-	4	4	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	31	27	3	4	1	1

TOTAL = 71

TUBERCULOSIS

	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1965	23	7	12	5	47
No. of cases added during the year	2	-	2	3	7
No. of cases removed during the year	5	4	2	2	13
No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1966	20	3	12	6	41

CASES ADDED TO THE REGISTER		CASES REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER	
New notifications	6	Recovered	11
Inward transfers	1	Died	2
		Removed to other areas	-
TOTAL	7	TOTAL	13

Immunisations for 1966

	Primary Course	Booster Dose or Revaccination
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis/Polio	-	1
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis	167	90
Diphtheria/Pertussis	-	-
Diphtheria/Tetanus	7	27
Diphtheria	-	-
Pertussis	-	-
Tetanus	13	2
Salk Poliomyelitis	11	21
Sabin Poliomyelitis	198	78
Smallpox	144	12

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR 1966

TO: The Chairman and Members of the Blyth Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, My Ladies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my third annual report.

Once again I wish to record my appreciation to the officers in my department for the work they have carried out. My thanks are also due to the Clerk of the Council and to the Treasurer for their helpful assistance and advice.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. A. WHITING

Senior Public Health Inspector

Council Offices,
Rendham Road,
Saxmundham.

Tel. No: Saxmundham 2281/2/3

WATER SUPPLY

Private Supply The East Anglian Water Company are the statutory water undertakers and they supply water to every parish in the district. The following figures have been provided by the Company.

	Water Supplied direct to Houses		Water Supplied by Standpipe	
	No. of Dwellinghouses	Estimated Population	No. of Dwellinghouses	Estimated Population
Aldringham-cum-Thorpe	311	1,086	9	31
Badingham	58	203	30	106
Benhall	128	447	13	46
Blythburgh	90	314	14	50
Bramfield	114	398	10	35
Brandeston	57	199	4	14
Bruisyard	27	94	5	17
Chediston	33	115	13	46
Cookley	20	70	4	14
Cransford	44	154	4	14
Cratfield	53	185	18	63
Darsham	86	300	22	77
Dennington	96	335	7	25
Dunwich	40	140	8	28
Easton	78	272	5	17
Earl Soham	108	377	26	91
Framlingham	659	2,301	62	216
Farnham	22	77	2	7
Friston	160	559	14	50
Gt. Glemham	63	220	-	-
Lt. Glemham	57	199	-	-
Hacheston	99	346	7	25
Heveningham	31	108	3	10
Huntingfield	46	161	5	17
Kelsale	286	999	9	31
Kettleburgh	39	136	9	31
Knodishall	152	531	20	70
Linstead Magna	4	14	1	3
Linstead Parva	17	59	4	14
Marlesford	71	248	11	38
Middleton	123	430	25	87
Parham	76	265	4	14
Peasenhall	147	513	21	73
Rendham	80	279	1	3
Saxtead	59	206	9	31
Sibton	47	164	13	46
Snape	153	534	5	17
Stratford St. Andrew	34	119	7	25
Carried forward	3,768	13,157	424	1,482

Brought forward	3,768	13,157	424	1,482
Sternfield	37	129	3	10
Sweffling	52	182	5	17
Theberton	99	346	16	56
Thorington	4	14	1	3
Ubbeston	15	52	2	7
Walberswick	232	810	9	31
Walpole	51	178	10	35
Wenhaston	223	779	37	129
Westleton	162	566	13	46
Yoxford	202	705	18	63
	4,845	16,918	538	1,879

Estimated total No. of houses supplied direct to house	4,845
" " " " " " by Standpipe	538
	5,383

Estimated population supplied direct to house	16,918
" " " by Standpipe	1,879
	18,797

Samples of water from the mains supply have been taken during distribution at random intervals from various places within the district. The bacteriological reports on these samples are as follows:-

No. of samples taken	Probable numbers per 100 ml.	
	Coliform bacilli	Bact. coli
32	0	0

These reports show the water to be of high standard.

Private Supplies

In a district of this size there are properties in most parishes which are remote from the mains supply of water. Distance and cost are two of the factors which make connection to the public supply difficult and a third reason for non connection is that the intervening land is in a different ownership. Where improvements to an isolated dwelling are proposed financial aid has been given in the form of a standard grant to enable the property to have a piped supply of water.

The number of samples of water from private sources sent for bacteriological examination was 29 and of this number 17 were satisfactory and 12 unsatisfactory. Additionally 21 samples were forwarded for nitrate analysis and of these 18 were satisfactory (below 20 p.p.m.) and 3 unsatisfactory.

The department is notified by the County Medical Officer of Health of the birth or expected birth of a baby and on receipt of this information a check and, if necessary, a sample of the household drinking water is taken to ascertain its suitability for infant feeding.

Where water from a private supply is unsatisfactory advice is given on alternative sources and remedial measures.

In addition to notifying the result of the particular examination a leaflet, reproduced below, is forwarded to the householder.

Sampling of Private Water Supplies

General Information

"As a rule, samples of water are taken for the purposes of two examinations, namely Bacteriological and Chemical (for presence of nitrates).

The Bacteriological result will show whether or not the water is polluted and it is the prime test concerning the purity of water. Bacterially polluted water can be purified by boiling for five minutes or by treating it with chemicals in the correct proportions; the commonest method is to add chlorine, or by filtration by an efficient purpose made filter.

The Chemical result will show whether or not there is an excess of nitrates in the water. Should there be such an excess the water will be unsafe for infant feeding (i.e. to babies less than 12 months old) but it would not be harmful to children over 1 year or to adults. However, nitrates cannot be removed or treated by boiling, by chemical means or by filtration and if there is a young baby in the house a nitrate free source of water must be used subject always to its being bacteriologically satisfactory.

It will be seen therefore that firstly a wholesome water should be free of pollution as determined by the bacteriological examination and secondly there should not be an excess of nitrates in it.

One further point should be stressed and it is that the result of a laboratory examination of water can only show the position at the time of examination. It does not exclude the possibility of pollution at a future date."

SEWERAGE and SEWAGE DISPOSAL

In February the sewerage scheme for Walberswick came into operation and this village, together with Framlingham and Kelsale has main drainage. Up to the 31st December the number of private properties in Walberswick in respect of which plans for connection to the public sewer had been approved was 127 of which 92 dwellings had been connected. A further 23 Council houses have also been connected to the sewer. There are 245 properties in the village capable of connection.

Progress continued on sewering the villages of Peasenhall, Sibton and Yoxford and by the end of 1966 work was well advanced. The scheme is due to come into operation in the summer of 1967.

The position at the end of 1966, in regard to other village schemes was as follows:-

(i) Aldringham, Thorpeness, Knodishall

Negotiations for the purchase of land for the sewage disposal works and for the pumping stations were completed and the scheme submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. A visit by an engineering inspector of the Ministry had been arranged for the 27th January, 1967. The revised estimated capital cost of the scheme is approximately £300,000.

(ii) Earl Soham

This scheme had also been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the inspectors visit had been arranged for the 26th January, 1967. The revised estimated capital cost of the scheme is £63,000.

(iii) Darsham, Middleton, Theberton, Westleton

The only outstanding matter in regard to this scheme was the inability of the District Valuer and the owner's Agents to reach agreement on the easement required for the effluent pipe from the disposal works to the New Cut. Application for consent to discharge the effluent had been made to the River Authority and dependent upon the terms of their consent it might be possible to shorten the length of effluent drain.

(iv) Blythburgh, Wenhaston and Bramfield

Difficulties were being met with the purchase of two pumping station sites. The consulting engineers were considering redesigning part of the scheme to avoid a pumping station at Vale Farm.

(v) Friston, Snape, Sternfield and Benhall, including Saxmundham

The consulting engineers were preparing engineering details for submission to the Ministry. Site purchase and planning consents will then have to be negotiated.

HOUSING

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

(a)	No. of Houses inspected (Does not include Revisits) (Does not include Council House visits carried out by Housing Manager)	246
(b)	No. unsatisfactory in any respect	218
(c)	No. rendered fit:	
	(i) Informal	105
	(ii) Formal - Public Health Acts	-
	(iii) Formal - Housing Acts (Section 9)	13
	(iv) By undertakings (Section 16)	8
	(v) Repair of Scheduled (1955) unfit houses	-
(d)	No. Demolition Orders secured	-
(e)	No. dwellings included in Clearance Orders secured	-
(f)	No. demolished by informal action	-
	No. demolished under Demolition Orders	4
	No. demolished under Clearance Orders	-
(g)	No. of dwellings in respect of which or part of which Closing Orders were made (including Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953)	3
(h)	Undertakings accepted not to relet unfit houses	1
(i)	Overcrowding: No known cases in the district throughout the year.	
(j)	Certificates of Disrepair	-

2. Provision of Housing Accommodation

	By Local Authority		By Private Enterprise	
	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary
Dwellings completed during the year	8	-	39	-
Number of dwellings in course of construction on 31st December, 1966	11	-	71	-
Total number of houses owned by the Council on 31st December, 1966	1017	50	-	-

Improvement Grants

	Discretionary	Standard
Number of dwellings in respect of which applications for grant were received	45	58
Number of grants approved	53	57
Number of dwellings improved by grant aid and completed in the year	38	53

Note: the apparant discrepancy between applications received and approved is due to the time lag between receipt and formal approval by the Council.

When the estimates for the financial year 1967/68 were being prepared the Treasurer (Mr. J.C.B. Begg) submitted a statement showing the analysis of grant paid totalling £289,168 in respect of a total of 1,128 dwellings. These figures are reproduced below:-

Financial Year	Discretionary Grants		Standard Grants		Remarks
	No.	£. s. d.	No.	£. s. d.	
1951/2	1	89. 12. 4.			To 31st March, 1954 the Council's portion was met annually, in full, from the General Rate Fund Account. From 1st April, 1954 the Council's portion is covered by Loans raised from time to time for the 20 years loan period.
1952/3	11	2,354. 3. 0.			
1953/4	6	1,384. 18. 0.			
1954/5	37	9,080. 7. 6.			
1955/6	82	18,049. 0. 0.			
1956/7	47	11,897. 0. 0.			
1957/8	48	15,245. 0. 0.			
1958/9	61	16,553. 10. 0.			
1959/60	69	20,121. 10. 0.	6	717. 9. 1.	
1960/1	63	21,215. 10. 0.	34	3,825. 19. 4.	
1961/2	68	23,005. 0. 0.	35	4,068. 8. 8.	
1962/3	86	29,421. 0. 0.	57	7,470. 14. 9.	
1963/4	47	15,462. 10. 0.	48	6,400. 8. 8.	
1964/5	61	20,557. 0. 0.	48	6,582. 13. 4.	
1965/6	55	22,668. 10. 0.	75	11,651. 17. 7.	
To date in 1966/7	37	12,922. 7. 6.	46	8,423. 11. 3.	
	779	240,026. 18. 4.	349	49,141. 2. 8.	Average Discretionary Grant - £308 Average Standard Grant - £141

At 1st April 1966, there were 6,657 houses in the district and just over 1,000 of these are council owned. Of the private houses one in five will have been improved with the aid of a grant.

4. Council House Improvements

Progress on the improvement of the pre 1939 Council owned houses continued during the year. In the twelve months under review 68 houses were improved.

FOOD HYGIENE

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

(a) The number of food premises in the area and type of business (approx.) :-

Grocery and General	78
Bakers	5
Butchers	10
Public Houses selling Ice Cream	7
Ice Cream only	3
Cafes	8
Fishmongers	8
Greengrocers	3
TOTAL	122

(b) No. of visits made	210
(c) No. found to be unsatisfactory	16
(d) No. rendered satisfactory	14
(e) No. of premises on register under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.	
(i) Ice Cream - Manufacture	-
Storage or Sale Only	90
(ii) Sausages, preserved food, etc.	4
(f) No. of licensed slaughterhouses	3

To a great extent the work involved in food hygiene has been mainly that of routine inspection of food premises. Where contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations have been found they have been remedied by informal action and it has not been found necessary to recommend that proceedings be taken.

2. MEAT INSPECTION

This work continues to occupy a large amount of the public health inspectors time. There are three slaughterhouses in the district and meat is inspected at these and also at one slaughterhouse in the Saxmundham Urban District.

The incidence of disease is small and whilst the following Table specifically refers to Tuberculosis it is doubtful if there is now any value in keeping records of this particular disease. It will be seen that the figures confirm that it is extremely unlikely to find tuberculosis in slaughtered cattle. This follows the national trend and follows a pattern which has been similar for several years.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed	565	14	12	169	947
No. inspected	565	14	12	169	947
Whole carcases condemned: Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
Other Causes	1	1	-	7	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned: Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	10
Other Causes	38	5	1	1	52

NUISANCES FROM INTENSIVE FARMING

During the year two serious complaints of nuisance arose due to the use of intensive farming methods.

In the first case several thousand chickens were housed in well designed and purpose made buildings. The birds were confined in cages, with mechanised feeding systems and controlled temperature and ventilation arrangements. The droppings from the birds fell on to an automatic conveyor belt which removed them to an open cesspool outside the buildings. Apart from any water which was added to form a slurry, surface water gained access to this underground tank and the manure became a fermenting mass. Whilst the slurry in the tank was offensive the smell once it was disturbed became greater and spreading the manure on the adjoining fields caused considerable aerial nuisance. Following several meetings with the farmer the nuisance was abated by storing the manure in a fairly dry condition and its removal from the premises in that condition.

In the second case some 400 pigs were housed in a purpose made pig fattening house. The floor of the building was partly slatted to allow manure to fall into cesspool channels which were placed on and under the long side of the house. At intervals of about 10 days the cesspool channels were emptied by means of a vacuum tank. The vacuum tank discharged its contents on to fields which were planted with fruit trees with grass between the trees. The smell from this semi-liquid septic manure was extremely offensive and caused a severe nuisance to residents in the village. Discussions with the owner did not produce any improvement and in September an abatement notice was served under the Public Health Act 1936.

In both of these cases the nuisance arose due to the slurry method of manure disposal. Although it is claimed that this method has economic advantages for the farmer it is one which, from the public health viewpoint, must be looked at with doubt. Liquid systems may be satisfactory in isolated areas or where non-septic and aerobic slurries can be obtained.

The legislation available to the local authority in dealing with this form of nuisance is contained in the Public Health Act 1936, and it is generally accepted that this does not necessarily give a satisfactory means of control in view of the "built-in" defence. It also suffers from the fact that the nuisance must exist and cannot be presumed. Under planning law large agricultural buildings can, in the main, be erected without consent and therefore a business can be established without control or conditions.

It is appreciated that intensive farming methods will increase and that they are necessary to meet the demand for agricultural products at a reasonable price. Where planning consent is necessary for the erection of buildings consultation between the applicant, the planning authority and the public health authority will to a large extent reduce the problems which could arise. Those units which are outside planning control cannot satisfactorily be dealt with and pending legislation it may be helpful if the Ministry of Agriculture issued a Code of Practice advising on safeguards and suggesting consultation.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse Collection

There was little change in the collection arrangements during the year.

A korbside collection service is in operation and its frequency is fortnightly with the exception of seven of the parishes which have a weekly collection.

There are two Shelvoke and Drewry 25 cu. yd. Freighters in daily use on the collection service and these are supplemented by the part use of the spare vehicle which is a Ford Thames Side Loader 10 cu. yd. capacity. The refuse collectors work overtime on every day except Sundays and average 16 hours overtime per man each week.

Refuse Disposal

Refuse tips were in use at Marlesford and near Saxmundham (Parish of Friston). A fair measure of tip control was achieved by the use of the Fordson Muledozer and the ever present difficulty of obtaining soil cover was partly counteracted by the delivery of spare soil from the Council's sewerage contracts.

Work was put in hand on the preparation of a new tip at Eastbridge to replace the tip near Saxmundham.

Cesspool Emptying.

During the year three cesspool emptiers were in continuous use with a fourth old vehicle as a standby. The drivers of the vehicles work about 13 hours overtime per man each week.

The number of emptyings carried out in the year were as follow:-

	Loads	Percentage
Council House Cesspools etc.	3,828	64.72%
Private Housing	2,070	35.28%

CARAVAN SITES

Number of sites licensed		59
Number of inspections		53
Number of caravans	(a) for holiday use	244
	(b) for residential use	57

RODENT CONTROL

Rats and Mice Destruction

No. of inspections:	Notified	333
	Otherwise	4,074
Rat Infestations:	Major	182
	Minor	533

Mice only		26
No. treated		740
No. of premises treated:	(a) Dwellinghouses	1,076
	(b) Other premises	191

Warfarin continued to be the poison used in the great majority of treatments. There was no evidence that rats in the district were becoming warfarin resistant even where extensive baiting with this poison had been carried out. Gassing in banks and open ground was also carried out.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	10	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	71	17	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	87	87	3	-
TOTAL	168	114	3	-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To. H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-Work)	1	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	-	-

OUTWORK (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing Apparel						
Making etc.	5	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES

The number and type of premises is summarised in the following table:-

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS			
Class of premises (1)	Number of premises registered during the year (2)	Total number of registered premises at end of year (3)	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices	1	12	6
Retail shops	1	39	12
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	1	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	11	-
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	63	18

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES - 29

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE	
Class of Workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	46
Retail Shops	109
Wholesale departments, warehouses	2
Catering establishments open to public	101
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage depots	-
Total	258
Total Males	95
Total Females	163

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Since June 1965 the Council have been maintaining measurements of the degree of air pollution at two sites in their area, at the Court House, Framlingham and the Water Tower Sibton.

These measurements, of smoke, or finely-divided airborn material, and of sulphur dioxide, are being made at the request of the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Ministry of Technology and they form part of a National Survey of Air Pollution which was planned and organised by that Laboratory. The carefully chosen sites cover all sizes of community from the largest cities down to towns and villages of under 5,000 population, as well as some sites in completely open country. The main purpose of the Survey, apart from the value often found locally of the readings, is to provide reliable average figures, over several summers and winters, of the two forms of pollution as a guide to those Departments responsible for furthering the progress of the Clean Air Act and for studying the effects of pollution on the health of the community, particularly in regard to respiratory diseases.

The equipment used by this Council needs to be attended once per week at each of the two sites, but by a semi-automatic sampling device it provides an average reading for smoke and sulphur dioxide for each successive 24 hours. An analysis is made by titration to ascertain the sulphur dioxide content, and filters through which air is drawn are examined with a reflectometer to give an accurate degree of staining. The daily figures so obtained are sent to Warren Spring Laboratory once a month where they, as part of a total from some 1,200 instruments in the United Kingdom, are carefully scrutinised and are then passed to a computer which does the necessary calculations and tabulates the results. Copies of the calculated daily concentrations for our two sites are sent back to this authority and are followed in due course by monthly and annual summary tables giving average figures for all sites in operation, these tables being circulated to all those Bodies participating in the Survey.

Set out below are figures which have been received for the month of January 1966 showing the results obtained from our two sites in comparison with sites of similar pollution risk and also sites of high density housing.

The unit of measurement is expressed as microgrammes per cubic metre.

	Smoke		Sulphur Dioxide		Smoke/SO_2 Ratio
	Average	High	Average	High	
1. Completely open country with no source of pollution within at least $\frac{1}{4}$ mile.					
SIBTON	28	87	29	74	.97
KIRKBY, LINCOLNSHIRE	55	203	57	127	.97
2. Rural communities.					
FRAMLINGHAM	39	114	34	76	1.15
ROSS ON WYE	71	153	55	123	1.29
LYNDHURST	85	242	51	117	1.67

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION (Continued)

3. Residential areas with high density housing.					
IPSWICH	149	583	170	310	.49
NORWICH	207	346	153	237	1.35
LEEDS	332	871	430	858	.77
SALFORD	420	1,121	253	473	.85

These results being for one month only, the full figures for the year 1965/66 not being available, does not give a full picture. However it shows, as would be expected, that the degree of air pollution in this area is very slight, but as previously stated the purpose of the survey is to obtain accurate national figures.

TOWN PLANNING AND BUILDING REGULATIONS

The number of applications received during the year was 764 which maintains the trend of yearly increase as shown in the following table:-

Year	No. of applications received
1966	764
1965	745
1964	714
1963	654
1962	571

The Building Regulations came into force on the 1st February. The regulations are complex and their implementation has stretched the resources of the department. A circular letter was sent to builders operating in the district drawing their attention to the new regulations.

Building Regulations are not a substitute for the control and supervision by the individual house purchaser. This can be achieved by instructing an architect or surveyor to act in the matter and/or by purchasing a dwelling built by a builder registered with the National House-Builders Registration Council. At the present time registration is voluntary but it is possible that compulsory registration may be introduced.

APPENDIX

Departmental Establishment as at 31st December. 1966

G. C. M. FRANKLIN, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. : Medical Officer of Health

A. A. WHITING, A.I.A.S., A.M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. : Senior Public Health Inspector and Surveyor

C. L. NATION, M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B. : Additional Public Health Inspector.

J. C. HALE, M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B., : Additional Public Health Inspector

B. MERRETT : Senior Technical Assistant

G. H. RANSOME : Technical Assistant

R. A. HOGGAR/P. W. BOTT from 1.11.66. : Junior Technical Assistant

P. J. LINSELL : Student Building Inspector

MRS. E. M. JORDAN : Senior Clerical Assistant

MISS M. C. WHINCOP : Junior Clerical Assistant

MRS. B. A. MAPLESTONE : Clerical Assistant (Part-time)